European Communities Commentary

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How the Community works

4 How industry and commerce influence development of Community policies

by Jeanette Cragg, Europe Industry and Technology Division, DTI

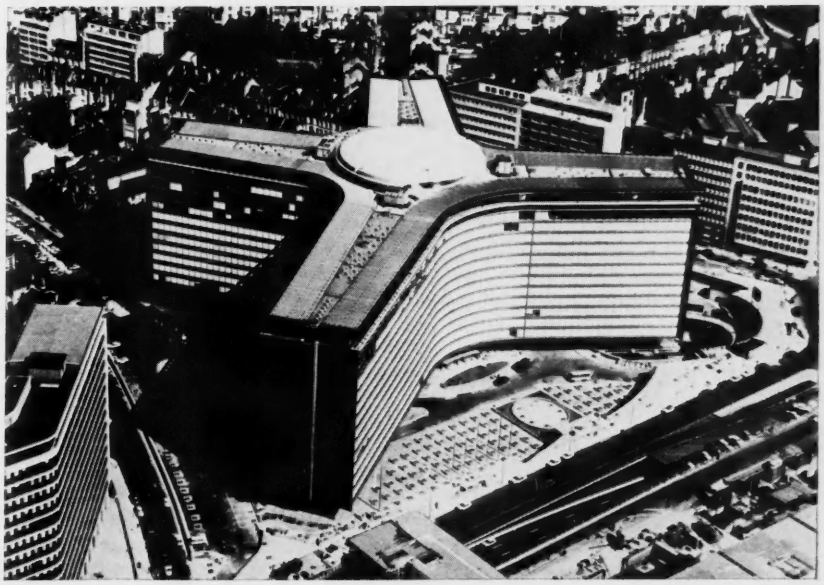
Part 1 of this series described the Council and the Commission; Part 2 the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Consultative Committee of the ECSC; and Part 3 Community law. In these three articles emphasis has been placed on the ways in which the Institutions influence development of Community policy. The present article extends the scope of the series to cover how industry and commerce in Europe organise themselves in their relations with the Institutions at various levels.

This subject is relevant to all companies in this country, even those which do not trade with other Member States, for Community policies and decisions can have direct effects within each Member State and thus upon a company's domestic activities: it is therefore much in a firm's interests to keep itself well-informed and to know how to influence developments. As the article indicates, it is primarily through well-established and regularly used channels that European industry and commerce make their voices heard and stimulate action in the Community. And it is by participating in this machinery and influencing national consideration of Community proposals that industry and commerce in the United Kingdom will be able to ensure that their interests are properly taken into account.

Trade organisations on the Continent

Organisation of industrial and commercial interests within the other Member States of the Community is rather different from that within the United Kingdom in a number of ways. Employers' organisations and trade associations generally fit into a 'tier' system: at the top are the national bodies consisting of organisations representing sectoral industrial interests, and, below them, associations or groups for particular products. Another difference is that, in the original Six (with the exception of Belgium), Chambers of Commerce have public law status, giving them a more formal representative position.

Over the years, these national organisations in the Community, and sometimes other European countries, have gradually linked up, and the resulting structure is certainly formidable in the lists of initials signifying the different organisations. **UNICE** (*Union des Industries de la Communauté Européenne*) brings together national confederations of employers associations, including the CBI. UNICE has regular meetings with the President and other members of the Commission, and maintains frequent contacts with individual directorates. There are standing arrangements for consulting UNICE, although the Commission is under no obligation at all to consult industry. Exchanges are two-way and UNICE may decide to take the initiative in putting forward its views, based perhaps on a survey by one of its expert committees. The **Permanent Conference of Chambers of Commerce and Industry** is, like UNICE, consulted by the Commission under



The Commission's Berlaymont Building in Brussels. Its door is always open to the individual firm; but views expressed through the 'regular' channels of communication—the organisations representing industry on a European-wide basis—are likely to carry more weight.

standing arrangements. It is composed of the national associations of Chambers of Commerce and Industry within the Community. Like UNICE, the Conference seeks to influence the Commission at various levels in the development of policies, formulates views and communicates them to the Community and Member Governments, and holds regular conferences with the President and certain Commissioners.

The next level of organisation is that of committees which represent broad sectors of activity, such as the **Permanent Committee for Agricultural and Food Industries** (CIAA), the **Committee of European Associations of Insurance Companies** (CEA) and the **Committee of Nationalised and Public Utilities** (CEEP). Then there are the organisations representing more specific sectors—the **Fédérations Européennes des Branches d'Industrie** (FEBI). There are around forty of these, about half of them industrial and half commercial confederations at Community level. European federations covering particular product groups number over a hundred. Employers associations are, in general, not as well-developed on an individual industry basis within the Community as are trade associations, though the **Western European Metal Trade Employers Association** (WEM) is an example of such a body. UNICE has an **Employers Liaison Committee** and has provided the secretariat for the employers' section of the Economic and Social Committee. In recent years the trade union movement has been developing strong links within certain industry sectors in Europe.

Points of contact with the Commission

The organisations described above, which are effectively European trade associations and industrial federations, are normally consulted informally by the Commission where their industries' interests are concerned, although there is no formal obligation upon the Commission to do so. They also provide focal points for consultation by the Commission and its officials on specific matters, and, of course, organisations can take the initiative in submitting their views. There are no formal rules on the level of access to the Commission: in practice an 'open door' exists. There may be situations where individual firms wish to make contact with the Commission, and they can, of course, make direct approaches; but regular and established contacts, and particularly those by bodies representing European-wide industry, obviously carry more weight and are more likely to build up effective channels of communication: the Commission in fact, usually expects a single contact point for each sector. These European groupings can only be as effective as their constituent national associations, and depend on them for their efficient organisations and the formation of views on Community policies. Effective and united national organisations are naturally better-placed than small and overlapping associations or individual firms. Trade associations can perform a significant role in assisting their members, particularly smaller firms, to appreciate the implications of the development of Community policies and programmes and the opportunities which they present: and several UK trade associations already have useful links with European organisations watching over the international interests of their industries. Harmonising technical standards and safety regulations in the design of certain products are examples of activities that may affect only a small sector of an industry but will be of vital importance to those concerned.

Besides making views known through the European organisations described above, firms can, of course, make representations to UK Government Departments, and also, especially on matters of general industrial interest, through bodies such as the CBI and the Chamber of Commerce movement. These organisations, because they are able to present a co-ordinated United Kingdom view in the European organisations in which they participate, can speak with particular effect. Lastly, as described in the second article in this series, the Treaties lay down procedures for consulting the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee on proposals for new Community legislation. This Committee is constituted to represent various categories of economic and social activity, and is therefore able to speak with authority on such matters.

The Commission has published a Directory of European-level sectoral organisations.* It has also recently set up a Business Co-operation Centre to advise industry, particularly small and medium-sized firms wishing to collaborate or link up (see *European Communities Commentary*, July 1973, p. 3), which will work closely with trade organisations and other bodies. The address is: 15-17 Rue Archimède, 1040 Brussels, Belgium.

*** The Second Edition—currently available in French, German, Italian and Dutch (but *not* English) in the one volume—can be obtained from HMSO (price £2.10 plus 25p UK inland postage) under the title '*List of joint organisations set up by the industrial, trade and commercial associations and services in connection with the European Communities*'.**

'Britain and the EEC' and 'Preparing for Europe'

Two series of articles of importance to all businessmen, reprinted from 'Trade and Industry'.

'Britain and the EEC' is a continuing series and further articles have appeared in 'Trade and Industry' since the collected edition was published in revised form in September 1972. These are:

Company law provisions of the European Communities Act.

Europe for small firms: the first impact.

Anti-dumping and the EEC.

Fair competition in the EEC: notification of restrictive agreements.

The articles in 'Preparing for Europe' show how British firms in a cross-section of industries have geared themselves for the enlarged European Community.

Copies of 'Britain and the EEC', 'Preparing for Europe' and individual articles can be obtained free of charge from: EEC Information Unit, Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. Tel: 01-222 7877 ext. 3591.

UK businessmen going overseas

British businessmen intending to travel overseas are urged in their own interests to make the earliest possible contact, before going abroad, with the Export Services Division of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) (at the appropriate Regional Office for firms outside London and Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, for firms in London and the South East of England). The DTI, in co-operation with Commercial Officers at Embassies, High Commissions and Consulates overseas, is in a position to provide advice when it is required, and to help, where appropriate, in making trade contacts related to the purpose of the visit. Even where a businessman does not require specific assistance it is valuable for him to meet the Commercial Officers to get up-to-date information about the market. The DTI would therefore welcome receiving notification of any businessmen intending to travel overseas. To enable the overseas Commercial Officers to be of the greatest assistance to UK visitors the DTI needs to be able to brief the overseas officers as fully as possible. The range of information required for this purpose includes details of the firm, their products/services and the purpose and background to the visit.

Eliminating technical barriers to trade within the EEC

Directive on low-voltage electrical equipment

by S. W. Fremantle, Standards Weights and Measures Division, DTI

In the June issue of *European Communities Commentary* we explained in general terms the action that is being taken, under Article 100 of the Treaty of Rome, to break down technical barriers to trade within the Community and how this action is likely to affect British industry. In the July issue we published a check-list of the directives and draft directives adopted or proposed under Article 100, and in August we published the first of the reviews of individual Directives which we propose to include in the *Commentary* as the occasion arises. The present article describes the main features of the Directive covering low-voltage electrical equipment (Directive 73/23/EEC), and discusses in very broad terms how it might be implemented in the United Kingdom.

Thinking on implementation is still tentative, but, because of the short time before the Directive will have to be put into effect, legislation and administrative action will have to be formulated very quickly. Accordingly, if readers have special points to make on implementation, now is the time to put them forward. However the Community in adopting the Directive, and the British Government in implementing it, will only have laid down the principles by which trade can be facilitated while safety is preserved and enhanced. It is the standards bodies—national, European and international—which the Community expects to translate those principles into practice by developing responsible and effective standards and agreeing them on at least a Community scale.

The full title of the Directive is: *Council Directive of February 19, 1973, on the harmonisation of the laws of Member States relating to electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits.* **The text was published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* (*OJL 77/29*) on March 26, 1973. Copies can be obtained from HMSO, price 42p.**

Short history

The draft of the Directive was submitted by the Commission to the Council of Ministers as far back as 1968. It was agreed, in a largely amended form, by the official committees within the Council machinery in December 1972. However, since a strike of Community officials was at that time in progress, the documents could not be prepared properly, and the Council of Ministers took the unusual step of 'approving' this Directive (and others which were dealt with at the same time) instead of 'adopting' it in the normal way. It was formally adopted at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on February 19, 1973, and was 'notified' to governments by the Council Secretariat on February 22. It will therefore have to be implemented by August 22, 1974 (February 22, 1978, for Denmark).

The length of time taken to deal with the Directive in the Council machinery, and the number of changes made in the process, are evidence of the controversy that it aroused. The UK, together with Denmark and Eire, was consulted during the final stages under the 'interim procedures' embodied in the Treaty of Accession. Most of this consultation was, however, only at second hand: and, since at that time we did not have a vote, the prospects of achieving any significant changes appeared slim. Nevertheless, some important amendments to the text were obtained and understandings reached which substantially changed the effect of certain key articles. In view of this, the UK was able to concur in the approval of the Directive in December 1972, and to join as a full Member in adopting it in February 1973. However, the fact that so many changes were agreed at the last minute led to a text that is obscure and difficult to follow.

Structure of the Directive

Directives designed to harmonise the national laws of Member States normally lay down detailed specifications for the products covered; Member States are obliged either to ensure that all such products conform with those specifications or not to impede the free sale and circulation of conforming products. But there are so many varieties of electrical equipment, and technological progress is so fast in the electrical field, that it was felt that such detailed prescriptions would unduly restrict customer choice and impede technical progress.

Accordingly the Directive has made use of a technique called 'general reference to standards' (*renvoi aux normes*), a use which is so far unique. Under it, safety is described in only general terms and the ultimate decision of whether a product is safe is left to the Courts. The detailed safety requirements are or will be expressed in recognised standards. It will not be compulsory for equipment put on sale to be manufactured to these standards (standards also take time to produce and therefore tend to lag behind the most advanced technology); but inspectors charged with ensuring the safety of electrical equipment will presume that equipment made to the standards is safe, and they will therefore be most unlikely to impede its sale or challenge its safety in the Courts. Non-standard equipment will carry no such presumption of safety, and manufacturers or sellers of such equipment risk having to demonstrate that an acceptable level of safety obtains. Such an approach has its analogues in certain British legislation, such as the Building Regulations. It contains a welcome flexibility: it allows manufacturers to obtain as much certainty as possible that their products, if constructed in approved fashion, will be accepted in all Member States; and it acknowledges that both standard makers and certifying bodies are not omniscient, that products presumed safe according to the Directive may in the event turn out not to be safe because of unanticipated problems, and that, on the other hand, products for which no standard as yet exists may nevertheless be at least as safe as 'standard' products.

Within this general approach:

Article 1 of the Directive describes its scope.

Articles 2-4 describe the basic obligations on Member States.

Article 5-7 describe the categories of standards or their safety provisions which may be deemed as satisfying the safety requirements.

Article 8 makes provision for non-standard equipment.

Article 9 describes the procedure if a Member State has prohibited the marketing of unsafe equipment.

Article 10 covers the certification of conformity to approved standards.

Articles 11-14 are administrative articles organising the implementation of the directive.

Scope

The Directive covers all electrical machinery, cables and equipment, including that used in and around the home, designed to be used within the voltage limits given in Article 1 of the Directive, other than the equipment listed in Annex 2. It is expected that the items in Annex 2 will in due course all be covered by separate directives; and drafts are in some cases already being discussed in the Commission or Council Committees. The Directive does not deal with installation requirements. Nor is it concerned with maintenance in use. An agreed interpretation of Article 2* virtually excludes from the Directive, at the discretion of the importing Member State, any items which are constructed to the user's requirements and are not 'batch-produced'. But, of course, such a user would be responsible for the safety of the equipment in operation under existing national laws.

The Directive is concerned only with safety; it is not concerned with performance where safety is not involved. The appropriate references in the text are therefore all to the 'safety provisions of standards' rather than to the standards themselves. Despite considerable efforts, however, we were unable to persuade the Six to draw a clear line between electrical and mechanical safety. It is understood that the Directive's coverage will include the mechanical safety of domestic appliances such as washing machines, but will exclude the mechanical safety of electrically-controlled and electrically-operated industrial equipment such as machine tools: but this is nowhere made plain in the text and is left for definition in individual standards.

Basic obligations

Article 2 establishes the Directive as a 'total' harmonisation directive; ie, Member States are obliged to prevent equipment they regard as unsafe from being placed on their markets. However there is no obligation on Member States to introduce new laws if they consider that their present controls are such that no unsafe equipment is being marketed. The safety objectives listed in Annex 1 which are called up by Article 2 are neither comprehensive nor precise enough to be given legal force. Nor can all the listed 'elements' be regarded as essential; if such a sense were given to the Annex, arc-welding equipment would be outlawed in Member States. The main significance of this Annex is likely to be as a justification for decisions under Articles 7, 8 and 9.

Article 3 provides the other main thrust of the Directive. It obliges Member States not to obstruct the free movement of items covered by the Directive provided they comply with one or other of the criteria laid down. The obligation applies to Member States only in their legislative capacity; private customers, and Government Departments and other public bodies acting as purchasers, are free to demand more stringent standards for their purchases. Article 4 supplements Article 3 by requiring Member States to prevent electricity supply undertakings from frustrating the intentions of the Directive by imposing stricter requirements on consumers as a condition of supply; in certain Member States, the local supply undertakings have used this power to create technical barriers to trade—sometimes, it has been claimed, with protectionist intent.

Provisions on standards

The principal means of freeing trade in electrical products envisaged in this Directive is to get all the Member States to accept 'harmonised' safety standards produced by voluntary consensus procedures. This arrangement has therefore been deliberately given pride of place in Article 5.

The expectation is that the bodies nominated to act under Article 5 will be the national standards organisations in the electrical field. As and when these organisations agree on harmonised standards, the latter will automatically become valid under Article 5. But there is more to it than that. When the Directive was drafted, the authors had in mind that standards would be harmonised in the organisation CENELCOM, of which only the relevant standards organisations of the then Member States were members. CENELCOM has now been merged into CENELEC, a body whose membership extends beyond the enlarged Common Market. Moreover, an agreement* reached in the final stages of negotiation makes it plain that preference under Article 5 is to be given to international (that is to say CEE or IEC) recommendations. The full implications of the Directive for CENELEC's rules of procedure and voting arrangements have not yet been worked out.

A further complication arises from the fact that, according to the second paragraph of Article 5, a standard is not considered to have been harmonised until it has been published in accordance with national procedures. This has to be read in conjunction with the fourth subsection of Article 11, which gives the Member States the right to say what method of publication is valid for this purpose. It is understood that most, if not all, of the other Member States will require publication in an official journal under Government control. Thus, a standard will be 'harmonised' only if it has been accepted both by the standards organisations and by the Governments concerned. Without this ultimate Government control, the Directive would have been constitutionally unacceptable in the UK and several other Member States.

Articles 6 and 7 provide further methods for reaching agreement on safety provisions which would be deemed to satisfy the requirements of the Directive. Under Article 6 a product may comply with the safety provisions of an IEC or CEE Recommendation—provided that these safety provisions have been accepted by the Government of all the Member States. Under Article 7 it may comply with the safety provisions of a national standard in force in the Member State of manufacture—provided that the provisions ensure a level of safety acceptable to the administrative authorities of the importing country. These two Articles cater for cases where a harmonised standard has not yet been developed; if CENELEC acts with due speed, it is unlikely that there will be much recourse to them.

Non-standard equipment

Article 8 is intended to cater for the situation where either a product departs from an existing safety standard or a relevant standard does not exist. It thus allows, among other things, for innovation. In effect, the last word lies with the administrative authorities of the importing country, but opportunities are provided for producing independent evidence that the product complies with the requirements of Article 2.

Escape clause

Article 9 is an escape clause with provisions for dealing with disputes. Three features should be noted. Firstly, the

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* *Re Article* 2: **That the text of Annex 1 and the concept 'use in applications for which it is made' enable the Member States, in respect of electrical equipment specially constructed to the user's requirements and not batch-produced, to take into account the needs of research and development or specialised applications.**

* *Re Article* 5 *and the preamble:* **In order to take account of the advantages of world-wide harmonisation of technical standards, which results in the reduction of technical barriers to trade between the Community and third countries, it is preferable to ensure free movement by means of harmonisation within the Community based on standards drawn up by international organisations.**

prohibitions can cover a class of goods—eg, all electric blankets which do not conform with prescribed minimum safety specifications—and not just a particular model. Secondly, the prohibition can be justified not only by a lack of a relevant harmonised standard but also by a defect in such a standard. This allows for corrective action to cater for unanticipated dangers. Thirdly, in the last resort, the Commission can only recommend. Thus, in the final analysis, a country which considers a particular product to be unsafe can exclude it from its domestic market even if all the procedures in the Directive have been complied with.

Certification

Article 10 provides for demonstrations that a particular product conforms with one or other of the safety standards valid under Articles 5-7. Although the word used in the Article is 'presumption' rather than 'proof', the Directive should encourage the use of independent certification schemes. This is likely to be particularly the case in respect of domestic appliances, where a manufacturer's declaration is, by inference, second-best. It is less likely to do so in the case of machinery and industrial equipment, where the Directive regards a manufacturer's declaration as more normal. But much will depend upon the way in which the various Member States interpret Article 10.

The mark or certificate conveying this presumption of conformity is awarded by an organisation notified by a Member State under the second sub-heading of Article 11. Any organisation can be nominated by any Member State, and, although the expectation is that Member States will usually nominate organisations within their own territories, there is nothing to prevent them from nominating organisations elsewhere. Nor is there any straightforward provision for challenge. In effect, therefore, in nominating a certifying body under the second sub-heading of Article 11, the Government is assuring the other Member States that the body in question can be relied upon. This raises difficult problems regarding the criteria and methods to be adopted by the Government in deciding which bodies to nominate.

Implementation

Departmental responsibilities

In Great Britain, several Departments have responsibility, direct or indirect, for the safety of electrical equipment:

Department of Employment: factories, warehouses, offices, shops, etc, certain installations of the electricity supply industry

Home Office and Scottish Home and Health Department: households

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods: farms

The Health Departments: hospitals

Department of Education and Science: schools, universities, etc.

Department of the Environment: equipment installed as part of buildings

Department of Trade and Industry: most installations of the electricity supply industry, ships, aircraft, mines and quarries

In addition Northern Ireland has separate legislation and separate, though analogous, Departmental responsibilities.

While this pattern of sectoral responsibilities is inconvenient for implementing the Directive, which is concerned rather with a broad category of products, more would be lost than gained by centralising the responsibility for equipment safety. Moreover no such decision could be reached in advance of action taken as a result of the Robens Report. Accordingly there is no intention of changing the present administrative structure in order to implement the Directive. However greater co-ordination between Departments will be needed. DTI is responsible for this co-ordination, while the detailed responsibility for individual sectors remains with the Departments listed above.

Achievement of safety (Article 2)

Present legislative and administrative arrangements are considered adequate to satisfy the obligations in this Article in the sectors administered by the Department of Employment, the DOE and the DTI. The influence of the DHSS over the hospital system, and of DES over the educational system, are again considered sufficient to fulfil the obligations without further legislation. However, in the domestic field, outside Common Law, the only legal impediments to selling unsafe equipment are the Regulations made under the Consumer Protection Act on colour coding of flexes, on electric blankets and on fireguards. The Home Office and the Scottish Home and Health Department are considering what action should now be taken to implement Article 2, including the possibility of making regulations under the Consumer Protection Act, and hope to start consulting interested parties in the early autumn. There may also be a need for Regulations under the Agriculture (Safety Health and Welfare Provisions) Act in the agricultural sector.

Free movement (Articles 3 and 4)

Because so little statutory law exists in the UK on the safety of electrical equipment as put on the market, no immediate legislation is needed to perform the obligation of Articles 3 and 4. However, if and when a harmonised standard is achieved, amendments may be required to the Regulations on fireguards and electric blankets. The Regulations on colour coding of flexes already enforce an international Recommendation which is followed in all Member States.

Standards (Articles 5 to 8)

The present legal framework in most sectors enables the provisions of these Articles to be observed through administrative action. In the domestic sector, the Home Office and Scottish Home and Health Department are considering possible procedures for the recognition of standards which are to be presumed as satisfying safety objectives, and the marks and certificates which indicate compliance with those standards. Similar consideration is being given in the agricultural sector.

Certain administrative measures will be needed:

i The place for publication of harmonised standards will need to be defined and notified to the Commission and other Member States. While the actual publication of the standards is likely to be done by the BSI in the normal way, formal 'publication under national procedures' will be defined as including a listing of suitable references in an official publication. Administrative arrangements will be made for listing all standards, whether harmonised or not, which give a presumption of safety, with a note of the sectors in which such presumption holds good. This will enable manufacturers and enforcement authorities to identify all the standards deemed to satisfy, whether they be British Standards, harmonised standards (under Article 5), safety provisions of IEC or CEE (under Article 6), the standards of other Member States (Article 7) or even standards of non-Member States.

Two aspects need noting. Although we expect CENELEC to act responsibly, it should not be assumed that a standard harmonised to CENELEC's satisfaction will be automatically published according to national procedures and therefore be harmonised for the purposes of the Directive. Secondly, many standards will not be listed officially, not because they are deficient in any way, but because they do not concern safety.

ii We shall need to notify the British body to draw up harmonised standards. This is likely to be the British Electrotechnical Committee, although for certain highly specialised fields it may be

appropriate to nominate other bodies.

iii Arrangements have already been established whereby Government Departments can run a final eye over proposals for standards in which their individual interest is comparatively minor. In view of the status which will be given to harmonised standards by implementation of the Directive, these arrangements will be overhauled in co-operation with BSI.

iv We shall need to get into a position whereby we can readily assess the equivalence of other national standards to our own so that we can make use of Article 7 both to obtain recognition of appropriate British standards and to recognise other national standards. This will require close co-operation between Government, BSI, approvals authorities and industry.

Certification

We are examining whether legislation is needed to protect and regulate the international certification marks mentioned in the second paragraph of Article 10, since there are difficulties in using either the Trade Marks Act or the Trade Descriptions Act for this purpose. Administrative action will be needed to nominate the bodies which may establish the marks and certificates. The Departments involved hope to be able to consult interested parties on this matter in the autumn, but have meanwhile formed three tentative conclusions:

i Nominated certification bodies should in principle be self-supporting in response to a commercial need for their services.

ii In general it would lead to confusion if more than one certification body were to be nominated for any one product field. On the other hand each such body could make use of more than one testhouse.

iii Before a body could be nominated, its constitution would have to meet certain criteria. It will, for example, be necessary to ensure that its governing body is fairly balanced, that it would act impartially and that it would provide an appropriate appeals procedure. Since the Government would have a measure of responsibility to the other Member States for the competence and reliability of the bodies it nominated, provision would also be needed for confirming that it continued to maintain adequate staff and facilities.

Imports into the Community

It is noteworthy that, while it is made explicit that the Directive does not apply to exports (Article 12), the Directive nowhere speaks about imports from 'third countries'. Thus Article 3 in particular applies no less to goods imported from outside the Common Market than to goods manufactured within it. Nor is there anything to prevent a Member State from nominating an organisation in a non-Member State under the second and third sub-headings of Article 11.

Viewed from the point of view of non-member countries, this Directive is extremely liberal. All its main provisions conform to the proposed Code of Conduct for Preventing Technical Barriers to Trade which is currently being negotiated by GATT: yet no attempt is made to oblige other countries to deal with imports of electrical equipment from the Common Market in a reciprocal fashion.

Conclusion

This does not pretend to be an exhaustive description of the Directive or of how it will be implemented. Its effects may turn out somewhat differently from what now seems probable. However, so far as can at present be foreseen, it is likely to have relatively little effect on sales of electrical machinery, equipment and appliances on the British market. Its main importance lies in the clear alternative routes that it lays down for sales of British electrical goods in those Member States of the Community which exercise legal controls in this area.

The Directive adds a new importance to the work on voluntary consensus standards in IEC and CENELEC and is likely to lead to a closer involvement of Governments in the standards-writing process. It is also likely to increase the use of independent certification and marking schemes, especially for trade across the frontiers of the Community and for imports from outside the Community. It is bound to involve governments in the recognition of such schemes.

Finally, by providing a single set of criteria which will enable a product to be marketed throughout the Community, it will, as the 'harmonised' standards are agreed, gradually create a unified market in the electrical field.

More information

Inquiries concerning this article should be addressed to Standards Weights and Measures Division, Department of Trade and Industry, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN. Telephone: 01-834 4422.

The Community and the environment

Product standards

by J. C. Mackenney, Industrial and Commercial Policy Division, DTI

The Community Environment Programme, which was approved by the Council of Ministers in July, and was summarised in the previous article in this series, contains proposals for product standards for a number of items. The Programme defines product standards as those which

set levels for pollutants or nuisances which are not to be exceeded in the *composition* or emissions of a product;

specify *properties* or characteristics of design of a product;

or are concerned with the way in which products are used.

Product standards may also include specifications for testing, packaging, marking or labelling of products.

Differing products standards imposed unilaterally by Member States create non-tariff barriers to trade; so it is important that any work in this field should proceed in a closely co-ordinated fashion on a Community-wide basis, so as to minimise interference with the functioning of the Common Market. It has been agreed, therefore, that mandatory Community-wide product standards should be developed through the Community Programme for Removing Technical Barriers to Trade, under the provisions of Article 100 of the Treaty of Rome. This Programme, which was outlined in an article in the June edition of *European Communities Commentary*, was adopted in April 1969 and extended in May 1973.

It specifies a number of industrial products and foodstuffs for priority action. Although the primary purpose of the Technical Barriers Programme is, of course, commercial, it also provides a useful policy instrument for securing Community-wide improvements in the environment, and it has been agreed that products of environmental significance are to be given priority. Consideration is being given to methods of giving the Technical Barriers Programme flexibility so that, amongst other things, when a need arises on environmental grounds for action on products not included in the Programme, these products can quickly be included in it. Such products should in general fulfil two criteria: they must contaminate the environment or pose a hazard to health or amenity, and they must be widely traded within the Community.

The Community Member States have agreed that steps towards harmonisation of product standards should be accompanied by other complementary measures. These will include investigations into the harmfulness to specified targets of the polluting agents in certain products; research into the possibility of changing the composition of these products so as to make them less harmful; and investigations into the economic consequences of the measures envisaged. Directives adopted should, of course, keep pace with technical and scientific progress; so the Community Environment Programme contains proposals not only for new Directives but also for the up-dating of those already in existence. Environmental work had, of course, been proceeding in a Barriers to Trade context before the adoption of the Community Environment Programme: for example, the Community has in past years adopted Directives on various aspects of pollution from motor vehicles, and last December approved, on environmental grounds, two Directives on bio-degradability of detergents.

Work on the products included in the Community Environment Programme is to be carried out in several stages. The first-stage work, with a target completion date of December 31, 1974, is on amendments to existing Directives on the permissible level of noise from motor vehicles and air pollution by gases emitted by internal combustion engines of motor vehicles. It is also proposed to forward Directives to the Council on topics that include the lead content of fuels, the sulphur content of petroleum derivatives and the toxicity of detergents. There are also proposals for Directives to be formulated before December 31, 1976, on subjects including the type approval of certain dangerous substances (such as corrosive products and explosives) and the chemical properties of packaging materials.

The Environment Programme also provides for investigations to be made into a number of subjects, including the problems posed by the presence of particularly active pollutants in cleaning and conditioning agents, products containing heavy metals, and chemical reagents used in industry; the design and composition of these products and the possibility of changing their composition or finding substitutes for them will be considered. The Commission also proposes the investigation of measures required to harmonise the monitoring procedures at present employed by public authorities in the various member countries on certain substances being marketed, including standardisation of methods of testing and sampling. This study will look into means of controlling new substances and will consider the possibility of setting up a European Office for the Approval of New Substances.

The administrative apparatus for formulating and adopting a Directive was described in detail in the article in the June edition of *European Communities Commentary*. To recapitulate briefly, the Commission normally sets up a Working Group to assist in preparing each Directive, containing experts from Member States, and in due course submits proposals to the Council of Ministers. After discussion by the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee and further consideration by officials the proposal is eventually adopted by the Council of Ministers themselves. This procedure can take several years.

The views of industry are taken into account throughout the formulation of a Directive specifying a product standard. During this period the Government Departments concerned, usually DTI and DOE, will keep the relevant industry or industries informed and seek their views. In addition, representatives of industry

(*continued on page 12*)

EEC environmental-protection research programme

Commission invites proposals for research

The Commission has published the following Communication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities, No. C61,* dated July 28, 1973:

Communication of the Commission concerning the Research Programme of the European Economic Community in the Field of Environmental Protection decided on 18 June 1973 by the Council of the European Communities

The Commission of the European Communities has been charged with the execution of a research programme in the field of environmental protection for a three year period starting 1 January 1973.

The Commission wishes to receive proposals from individuals and organisations in the Community interested in participating in this programme by means of research contracts in the following areas:

(a) establishment of a data bank on environmental chemicals;
(b) health and environmental effects of lead pollution;
(c) epidemiological surveys on the effects of air and water pollution;
(d) health effects of micropollutants;
(e) evaluation of ecological effects of water pollutants;
(f) remote sensing of air pollution.

Proposals for research may be submitted by any natural or legal person, whether existing under public or private law, institution or association of persons within the territory of a Member State. They should include detailed information on the applicant and on the nature and cost of the research he proposes to carry out. They can be presented at any time. However, since the Commission wishes to initiate this programme as early as possible, it is in the interest of the concerned parties to submit their proposals at their earliest convenience.

The final decision on these proposals, which will be treated as confidential, remains with the Commission.

Forms for the submission of proposals, as well as any further information, may be obtained from:

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate General XII for Research, Science and Education,
Environmental Research Programme,
200, rue de la Loi,
1040, Brussels.

British insurance and the Community

by G. C. Dick, Insurance Division, DTI

A programme for the harmonisation of Member Countries' insurance legislation and administrative practices was agreed by the European Economic Community—then, of course, the Six—as long ago as 1961. The series of Directives envisaged by the programme were designed, when fully implemented, to create a truly common market in insurance services, but the technical complexities involved, coupled with differences in attitudes towards insurance supervision, delayed the settlement of the terms of the more important of them until after the enlargement of the Community—and the UK's accession—at the beginning of the year. This article brings the reader up to date with developments.

Directives implemented prior to the UK's accession

Only two insurance Directives were in force at our accession:

(1) The Directive on freedom of establishment and freedom to render services for reinsurance business (64/225/EEC).

This Directive was issued on February 25, 1964. Its effect is to remove from Member States the power to impose on other Member States' reinsurers discriminatory provisions to which their own domestic reinsurers are not subject. British reinsurers now have the advantage of this Directive; it has not altered our own practice, as we did not have any discriminatory provisions as to reinsurance.

(2) The Directive on the approximation of Member States' legislation relating to insurance against civil liability in respect of the use of motor vehicles, and to the enforcement of the obligation to insure against such liability (72/166/EEC).

This Directive, issued on April 24, 1972, requires motor vehicle insurance policies to include that cover which is compulsory in other Member States, and abolishes frontier inspection of 'green cards' for motorists from Member States. In addition, the Motor Insurers' Bureau or its equivalent in each member country must accept financial responsibility for compulsorily insurable liabilities incurred by vehicles registered in their own country, whether insured or not. The Directive's operative date for United Kingdom insurers is January 1, 1974, by which date their policies will have to provide the wider cover required. The Directive was issued before Britain's accession to the Community and HMG have negotiated the amendments and adaptations needed to accommodate the UK.

The non-life establishment Directives

Of far greater importance to British insurers, and to their prospects of increasing business in the enlarged Community, are the two Directives relating to **freedom of establishment in non-life insurance business,** which were adopted on July 23, 1973. These were based on Directives provisionally agreed by the six original Member States in mid-1972, but which were subsequently the subject of lengthy negotiations with the acceding countries in order to adapt their terms to allow British, Danish and Irish insurers (some of whom have unique characteristics not envisaged when the Directives were drawn up) comparable rights and opportunities.

The non-life establishment Directives confer on authorised British insurers the right to establish agencies or branches in other Member Countries, provided that they meet the criteria laid down for such matters as solvency margins. By the same token authorised insurers from other Member States will also be able to establish branches in the United Kingdom. The Directives have, however, much wider implications, in that their provisions effect some harmonisation of the conditions on which an insurer conducts his operations in his own domestic market. Before the insurer is able to establish himself in other Community countries the supervisory authorities there will have to satisfy themselves that he is fulfilling the conditions laid down in the country of his head office; the Directives lay down in general terms what these conditions should be.

HMG have negotiated amendments and adaptations to take account of the various types of insurer which exist in the UK, but for which the Directives, as originally agreed by the Six, did not cater; in particular the Directives make provision for Lloyd's. They also provide exemption for various small local insurers, friendly societies and the Crown Agents from conditions which they cannot meet. The provisions of the Directives do not call for anything which insurers cannot meet, and the conditions which will have to be observed are not materially different from the supervisory requirements already in force in this country. In countries where the insurer has an agency or branch he will be obliged to constitute technical reserves, calculated according to the host countries' rules, and to present accounts in respect of *local* business only. In the case of the localisation of reserves for marine and aviation business it has been agreed that further consultations will take place before any new requirements are imposed.

None of these requirements represents any serious departure from what British insurers are already used to providing, and, where there are changes, there will be substantial transitional periods in which they may be effected. National laws governing insurance supervision will, however, require to be changed to conform with the Directives within 18 months.

Draft Directive on the provision of insurance services

In view of their traditional business in overseas markets, which contributes so much to Britain's invisible exports, one of the most vital considerations for British insurers is the question of **freedom to provide insurance services.** Only the ability to provide insurance across frontiers *without* the insurer's establishing a branch or agency in the policyholder's country constitutes a genuine common market in insurance. But this is a much more difficult concept for the tightly-controlled Continental insurance markets to accept, especially for the supervisory authorities, whose detailed control of insurers' operations has had a protective effect on markets even if exercised primarily in the interest of the policyholder.

The EEC Commission are therefore trying to introduce the idea of freedom of services in insurance on a piecemeal basis—initially by the introduction of a draft Directive which would confer **freedom to provide insurance services in respect of transport and industrial and commercial risks only.** By this Directive they hope to introduce the concept of the free provision of services in an area where the policyholder is assumed not to need so much protection and where the nature of the risks often involves an international element.

The Underwriting Room at Lloyd's, where insurance business worth more than £780 million is transacted each year, much of it originating in countries overseas, including, of course, other Member States of the EEC.

Other Directives under consideration

Other draft Directives which will govern aspects of insurance business within the Community are at various stages of development. They include:

(1) The life assurance establishment Directives.

These closely follow the pattern of the non-life establishment Directives. The Commission hope to get them adopted before the end of 1973. The two essential problems here are to maintain the ability of the British industry to act freely within the framework of sound actuarial principles, and to find a way of enabling composites from countries like Italy and Britain to trade through branches in countries like France and Germany which do not normally allow composites.

(2) Directives on the establishment of agents and brokers.

Directives on the principles to govern the freedom of establishment for brokers and agents and the qualifications they should possess, and transitional measures for the application of the Directives, have been drafted for some years, but progress has been delayed. The Commission hope to revive the discussion within the next few months. To implement these Directives DTI may need powers to require the registration of brokers and agents; this is a matter on which, as with all the Directives, consultations will be undertaken with interested organisations.

(*continued on next page*)

A European trade mark?

In view of the progress made in the European Patent Convention—the final draft of which will be the subject of a Diplomatic Conference at Munich this month—attention has again been focused on the need for unitary protection for trade marks within the Community. At present persons or firms wishing to secure registration protection for their marks in the countries of the EEC are obliged to make separate applications to the national registration authorities, except for the Benelux countries which already operate a unified trade-mark system from a central registry at the Hague. And the criteria for registration of trade marks, and the degree of protection obtained, vary considerably among the countries of the Community.

A Working Party of the original six member countries of the EEC prepared a Draft Convention for a European Trade Mark in 1964. Work on the draft was abandoned at that time after differences of opinion arose on fundamental questions of industrial property, and the text was never published. In order to reactivate discussion on the concept of a European Trade Mark the European Communities Commission has now published the preliminary draft in the four original languages of the Community—French, German, Dutch and Italian. An English translation has been published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office*.

The aim of the Convention has been to establish a trade-mark law common to the entire territory of the Community (co-existent with national trade-mark legislation), and a Register of European Trade Marks administered by a European Trade Mark Office. Registered European marks would, nevertheless, be subject to the trade-mark laws of each member country separately for the purposes of infringement actions. Detailed negotiations within the enlarged Community on this project and on the necessary administrative measures for implementing it have not yet commenced; but the French Government has recently proposed in the Council of Ministers that Community countries should now resume work on the Draft Convention. The United Kingdom supports this move, and the Government announced in Parliament on July 12 its intention to propose that the European Trade Mark Office be sited in London.

The text of the preliminary draft, now nearly 10 years old, contains a number of variants and may not represent current European thinking on trade marks. In some important respects its provisions do not correspond with the basic principles of the UK registration system. For example, the provisions for dealing with conflicts between trade-mark applications and marks already registered differ substantially from those of the current British system. Under our law the responsibility is on the Registrar to search for conflicting prior registrations and to decide *ex parte* whether objections raised on account of them should be maintained; in contrast, the preliminary draft proposes a system, rather like the German, where the onus is on the owner of earlier conflicting marks to raise them in opposition proceedings.

The difficulties in the way of evolving a European Trade Mark law which will meet the varying philosophies and requirements of member countries must not therefore be underestimated; but a solution to the problem is clearly desirable in the interests of facilitating the free flow of trade-marked goods within the Community, and of giving owners of marks the maximum protection throughout the entire territory.

*** Standard Book No. 11 510880 7; 72pp; price 47p (52½p with postage).**

Harmonisation

At the centre of future discussions lies the degree to which the systems of different countries require to be harmonised in order to achieve complete freedom to provide services. The Commission have in preparation Directives on the winding-up of insurance companies, the co-ordination of laws and administrative provisions relating to insurance contracts, and the taxation of insurance contracts. All of these impinge on discussions taking place outside the insurance field, and present difficult problems. It is held by some that harmonisation in these areas is a prerequisite of freedom to provide services, on the grounds either that substantial variations in national practice will distort competition or that more adequate protection for policyholders must be secured.

Consultation

In examining the draft Directives put forward by the EEC Commission, the DTI have throughout worked closely with British insurers, and will continue to do so in considering the Directives now in prospect and those which emerge in the future. The Department is particularly indebted to the British Insurers' European Committee for the help and guidance they have given, and looks forward to continued co-operation with them and other representative bodies.

More information

Inquiries arising from this article should be addressed to Insurance Division, Department of Trade and Industry, Room 605, Sanctuary Buildings, 16/20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB. Telephone: 01-222 7877, ext. 5802.

EEC—your questions answered

The ECC Information Unit's function in life is to help firms—small or large—to find answers to the questions posed by the UK's membership of the European Communities. Many of the inquiries received concern firms' own activities or special problems, and these, of course, are kept strictly confidential; but many are of general interest, and the answers to some of these are given below in the expectation that readers will find them useful.

Q. When the UK starts adopting the Common External Tariff on January 1, 1974, what will happen to import duties on commodities where the UK rate is expressed as a specific duty and the EEC rate as an *ad valorem* duty?

A. As suggested by the name, a specific rate of duty is levied on a specified amount of a commodity (eg £1.25/tonne) rather than by a percentage of the value (the *ad valorem* duty). Where the UK tariff quotes a specific rate, and the CET an *ad valorem* rate, the UK rate will be phased out over a period of 3½ years (four years for horticultural products) and the *ad valorem* duty phased in over the same period. Thus, during the transitional period, duty into the UK on certain products will be in a compound form consisting of part specific duty and part *ad valorem*.

The first change will occur on January 1 next year, when the UK duty will consist of a specific rate reduced by 40 per cent from the base rate (the rate of duty on January 1, 1972), to which will be added 40 per cent of the *ad valorem* CET. Further changes will occur on January 1, 1975 (specific rate reduced by 60 per cent, + 60 per cent of CET), January 1, 1976 (specific rate reduced by 80 per cent, + 80 per cent of CET), and July 1, 1977 (when the specific rate will finally be removed and the full CET rate charged).

The following table gives an example of how this system will operate for UK tariff number 44.12A, 'Wood Wool':

Date	UK tariff	CET
Jan. 1, 1972 (base date)	£1.3530/tonne	5%
Jan. 1, 1974	£0.8118/tonne + 2%	5%
Jan. 1, 1975	£0.5412/tonne + 3%	5%
Jan. 1, 1976	£0.2706/tonne + 4%	5%
July 1, 1977	5%	5%

In a number of cases where the UK tariff quotes a specific rate of duty an alternative *ad valorem* rate is given. Where this happens the alternative rate will be retained during the transitional period and will be phased out in the same way as the specific element. An example of this is UK tariff number 50.10A, 'Woven fabrics of noil silk containing more than 50 per cent by weight of silk or of silk and man-made fibres', where the transition to the CET will be achieved as follows:

Date	UK tariff	CET
Jan. 1, 1972 (base date)	£0.0200 per sq. yd. or 17.5%, whichever is the greater	8.5%
Jan. 1, 1974	£0.0120 per sq. yd. or 10.5%, whichever is the greater, + 3.4%	8.5%
Jan. 1, 1975	£0.0080 per sq. yd. or 7%, whichever is the greater, + 5.1%	8.5%
Jan. 1, 1976	£0.0040 per sq. yd. or 3.5%, whichever is the greater, + 6.8%	8.5%
July 1, 1977	8.5%	8.5%

Q. What is the function of the European Investment Bank?

A. The European Investment Bank was established by Article 129 of the Treaty of Rome, and is an independent, non-profit-making, public institution of the Community. Its task is to contribute to the balanced development of the Common Market by granting long-term loans and guarantees to facilitate the financing of:

(a) projects that help the development of less developed regions;
(b) projects for modernising or converting undertakings or for developing fresh activities called for by the progressive establishment of the Common Market;
(c) projects of common interest to several Member States.

In the case of (b) and (c) the projects must be of such size or nature as to exclude their being entirely financed by means available in individual Member States. The financing of large projects is the primary concern of the Bank, although it assists small and medium-sized industrial projects by granting overall loans to financial institutions that act as intermediaries. The Bank has recently agreed terms with the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation for an initial loan facility of £3.5 million, available to ICFC for 12 months for the financing of small and medium-sized British companies in development areas in the United Kingdom.

The Bank may grant loans to private or public enterprises and regional or local public authorities, regardless of their legal status. The projects financed must be in a Member State or an Associated Territory, but loans are granted without regard to the borrowers' nationality. Loans from the Bank may cover only a part of the total cost of the project and are generally up to 40 per cent of the fixed capital cost.

The funds of the Bank derive from the initial capital subscribed by the Member States and money raised on the capital markets of Member and non-Member States. The Bank's financing contracts provide borrowers with credits expressed in the equivalent of their national currency. Actual payment is made in several currencies, which the Bank selects according to availability and customer preference. The sterling con-

tent of EIB loans is limited at the present time.

Interest rates are fixed by the Bank's Board of Directors. The present rates for loans, fixed as of October 26, 1972, are 7.375 per cent per annum for loans of less than 9 years and 7.75 per cent per annum for loans that exceed 9 years. The duration of loans and methods of repayment vary according to the project. For industrial projects the duration is generally between 7 and 12 years. Contracts may provide for repayment to be deferred for a period, generally between 2 and 4 years. As security for its loans the Bank normally asks for guarantees from industrial or financial groups associated in the project, or from banks or a public authority with first-class credit, or from the State on whose territory the project is being carried out.

Any enterprise, authority or financing institute wishing to contact the Bank can apply directly to the head office: 2 place de Metz, Luxembourg (Tel: 43 50 11; Telex: 222 bankeuro L). The EIB can also be approached through the usual bankers of the interested organisation.

A detailed article on the Bank will be published shortly in *European Communities Commentary*.

Q. I am engaged on a wide-ranging investigation of the European market potential for our company's product. Can you refer me to any useful statistical sources?

A. The Department of Trade and Industry's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library holds a comprehensive collection of trade, economic and general statistics, including the most up-to-date collection of European trade statistics in the United Kingdom. It also has a large collection of international and foreign trade directories, catalogues of foreign manufacturers—mail-order firms and department stores, and many development plans giving early indications of possible export markets. The Library, which is open from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. from Monday to Friday, has a large public reading room and a special room where typewriters and adding machines can be provided. A document-copying service is also available.

A bibliography*, listing the principal sources of statistics for the founder members of the EEC, has been prepared by the Library staff and is available free of charge (and a similar publication for the EFTA countries and Denmark can also be supplied). The bibliography is divided into international and country sections, which are subdivided into broad categories, such as cost and standard of living, finance, labour and wages, transport and foreign trade. For those who wish to purchase particular items an appendix gives the addresses of publishers or sales agents. All the publications listed (nearly 350 in all) can be freely consulted by visitors to the Library.

For answers to *your* questions, contact the EEC Information Unit, Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. Tel: 01-222 7877—Ext. 3591 for publications; Exts. 5377, 5479, 5480 or 3579 for questions on EEC matters.

* *Sources of Statistics: The ECC* can be **obtained from Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Department of Trade and Industry, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (Tel: 01-248 5757, Ext. 368), or from the EEC Information Unit.**

Customs and Excise

Community Transit

Goods in warehouse, in transit, etc, on February 1, April 1, and July 1, 1973: revised arrangements

In *European Communities Commentary* No. 1 (pp. 10-11) we gave details of **EEC Regulation 217/73,** which provided for the retrospective issue of Community Transit movement certificates to give evidence of entitlement to the preferential Community rates of duty in respect of goods which had been exported from a Member State but which had not entered into consumption in another Member State at the time the preferential rates became effective. The Regulation laid it down that to be valid the movement certificates had to be produced to the Customs authorities of the importing Member State on or before July 31, 1973. Following representations that this time limit gave inadequate opportunity for getting the evidence, the Commission have now agreed that it may be extended to December 31, 1973.

Affected goods still in warehouse, etc, cannot be cleared to the Community preferential rate of duty in the absence of a movement certificate. Provided, however, that the certificate is presented to the Customs on or before December 31, 1973, the preferential rate will be allowed on the goods whenever they are eventually cleared after production of this evidence.

In agreeing to the extension, the Commission made it clear that the time limit applied also to agricultural goods, such as wine, which had not been cleared for home use by July 1, 1973, the date when the preferential rate of duty became effective for such goods.

Use of TIR for the movement of goods within the EEC

At present, traders moving goods between Member States of the EEC have a choice between the Community Transit system (as described in **Customs Notice 750)** and the TIR* procedure. **Article 7(2) of Regulation (EEC) 542/69,** the main regulation on Community Transit, envisaged that the option of using TIR for a movement which both began and ended in the Community would cease on December 31, 1973. The Commission have now agreed, however, that this option may continue until December 31, 1975. After that date, therefore, operators will be able to use TIR for movements which either begin or end in the Community but for movements wholly within the Community will have to use the Community transit procedures.

* International Transport of goods by Road (see **Customs Notice 464)**

Economic Indicators of the EEC

These tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves; international publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented by later reports where possible. In addition to the Member States of the EEC, the United States and Japan have been included for comparison.

The form of presentation adopted—indicators by subject—is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned.

An extensive bibliography—'Sources of Statistics: 2. The European Economic Community'—which lists publications in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library of the Department of Trade and Industry, is obtainable on request to the library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (Tel: 01-248 5757, ext. 368). 'Statistical News' No. 21 (May 1973), published by the Central Statistical Office, contains a selected bibliography of statistical publications of the Commission of the European Communities.

TABLE 1. NDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

(Excluding construction) Seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxem-bourg	France[1]	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC[3]	*United States*	*Japan*
Weights in EEC	3.8	0.3	23.5	36.5	0.7	12.6	4.4	18.2	100.0	—	—
Weights in total	1.5	0.1	9.0	14.0	0.2	4.9	1.7	7.0	36.4	*48.4*	*13.1*
1968	88	88	84	83	90	91	81	95	87	*99*	*74*
1969	97	100	94	94	97	94	91	98	95	*104*	*88*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	103	99	106	102	105	97	107	101	102	*100*	*103*
1972	109	103	114	106	110	100	115	104	107	*107*	*110*
1971 1st quarter	103	96	104	102	105	99	105	100	102	*99*	*103*
2nd quarter	103	100	103	103	105	96	106	101	102	*100*	*102*
3rd quarter	104	100	107	102	104	95	107	101	102	*100*	*103*
4th quarter	103	99	109	100	108	100	108	101	103	*101*	*103*
1972 1st quarter	108	98	111	104	107	99	112	98	104	*103*	*106*
2nd quarter	108	102	112	105	107	99	114	104	106	*106*	*108*
3rd quarter	107	104	115	105	110	97	115	105	107	*108*	*111*
4th quarter	114	108	117	109	115	105	119	108	111	*111*	*116*
1973 1st quarter	116	114	122	113		99 (e)	122	111	114	*113*	*124*
				113 (e)		108 (e)		113 (e)		*116*	*128*
1972 May	108	102	113	106		100	115	105	107	*106*	*108*
June	111	102	112	104		100	114	104	106	*106*	*109*
July	105	102	115	105		97	114	104	107	*107*	*108*
August	106	106	115	103		95	115	105	106	*108*	*111*
September	110	104	115	106		98	117	106	108	*109*	*112*
October	111	107	115	108		105	117	108	109	*110*	*114*
November	114	107	118	109		104	118	108	111	*111*	*116*
December	116	110	119	111		105	121	109	112	*112*	*119*
1973 January	116	108	122	113		101	122	109	113	*112*	*122*
February	116	116	122	115		98 (e)	123	111	115	*113*	*122*
March	117	117	123	112		98 (e)	120	112	114	*114*	*127*
April	113	112	120	115		106 (e)	121	113	115	*115*	*126*
May	119	114	125	111		108 (e)	121	113	115 (e)	*116*	*129*
June				113 (e)		111 (e)		113		*116*	*130* (e)
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	+0.3	+2.7	+1.4	nil	+4.5	+9.4	−1.4	+2.0	+1.2	*+2.4*	*+3.8*
On a year earlier	+8.7	+13.2	+9.9	+7.6	+8.5	+9.4	+5.5	+8.5	+8.2	*+9.1*	*+18.8*

[1]Excluding clothing, wood products and furniture. [2]Mining and manufacturing only. [3]Excluding Denmark.
(e) Estimated

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators

Product standards

(*continued from page 7*)

may be invited to play a direct part in the formulation of Directives by attending meetings of Commission Working Groups as members of the UK team, or as representatives of appropriate European trade federations.

For further information on how EEC environmental policies may effect your firm, contact your sponsoring Division in DTI, or consult your copy of *Europe: A Checklist*. **The** *Checklist* **is available free from Europe Checklist, PO Box 686, London SW20 HTV. Inquiries arising from this article should be directed to Department of Trade and Industry, Industrial and Commercial Policy Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (Tel: 01-222 7877, Ext. 3558). Inquiries on the detailed work under way in the Technical Barriers Programme should be directed to Department of Trade and Industry, Standards, Weights and Measures Division, Abell House, London SW1R 4LN (Tel: 01-834 4422, Ext. 503).**

London office of the Commission and the European Parliament.

The London office of the Commission of the European Communities has moved into new premises. The address is:

20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ. Tel: 01-727 8090.

The Secretariat of the European Parliament has opened an Information Office at the same address. The telephone number is: 01-229 9366.

TABLE 2. UNEMPLOYMENT

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1,2]	Denmark[1,3]	France[2,4]	German F.R.[5]	Ireland[1]	Italy[6]	Netherlands[2,5]	United Kingdom[5]	*United States*[6]	*Japan*[7]
1968	147	163	97	218	88	113	147	95	*69*	*108*
1969	120	129	85	120	86	108	115	94	*69*	*104*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	100	125	129	126	100	100	135	129	*122*	*111*
1972	123	125	145	166	114	114	235	142	*118*	*119*
1971 1st quarter	96	92	121	105	95	96	107	111	*122*	*105*
2nd quarter	96	125	126	126	95	102	122	126	*121*	*110*
3rd quarter	100	133	132	142	100	98	141	135	*123*	*115*
4th quarter	107	150	138	154	112	102	174	146	*124*	*121*
1972 1st quarter	114	138	142	143	114	106	207	149	*123*	*119*
2nd quarter	120	142	146	181	114	113	254	147	*120*	*120*
3rd quarter	125	125	148	192	117	121	265	141	*118*	*122*
4th quarter	130	100	145	176	114	117	237	132	*113*	*117*
1973 1st quarter	125	42	140	141	107	107	220	117	*108*	*110*
2nd quarter	127	106		187	103		264	106	*107*	
1972 May	120	150	147	187	114		254	147	*122*	*121*
June	123	133	144	184	117		265	144	*117*	*124*
July	124	129	145	189	117	121	259	143	*118*	*120*
August	125	121	148	193	117		270	139	*119*	*124*
September	128	117	150	194	117		267	141	*118*	*122*
October	132	104	147	191	114	117	257	137	*118*	*119*
November	131	100	144	179	114		243	132	*110*	*120*
December	127	96	144	157	114		211	126	*110*	*111*
1973 January	125	50	141	131	110	107	202	124	*107*	*111*
February	125	29	139	142	107		217	116	*109*	*108*
March	125	42	139	150	105		239	111	*107*	*110*
April	127	129	143	179	102		259	109	*108*	*107*
May	127	83	143	189	102		263	105	*107*	*110*
June	128	104		194	105		270	104	*104*	
July								102	*102* (e)	
Rate %[8]	2.3		1.7	1.1		3.6	2.6	2.5	*4.7*	*1.1*
% change latest three months:										
On previous three months	+1.6	+162.0	+0.4	+33.0	−3.7	−8.5	+20.1	− 7.4	*− 3.4*	*−1.2*
On a year earlier	+5.8	−24.8	−2.6	+ 3.7	−9.7	+1.2	+ 3.7	−28.3	*−12.2*	*−7.5*

Note: Figures of total unemployment and unemployment rates are very sensitive to the particular measures used and the sources from which they are obtained. The figures in this table to a large extent reflect the different administrative systems and social-security provisions of the countries concerned.

[1] Insured unemployed. [2] Change of basis during period. [3] Monthly data are weekly averages. [4] Unfilled applications. [5] Registered unemployed.
[6] Based on results of sample survey. [7] Unemployment-insurance beneficiaries. [8] Numbers in latest month available as % of total employees (UK) and of total labour force (others). (e) estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 3. EXPORTS (fob)
Special trade,[1] seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	*United States*[2]	*Japan*[3]
1968	8,160	2,580	12,708	24,840	792	10,188	8,340	15,348	64,236	*34,416*	*12,972*
1969	10,068	2,952	15,024	29,052	888	11,724	9,960	17,520	97,200	*37,992*	*15,984*
1970	11,592	3,288	17,940	34,188	1,032	13,188	11,772	19,356	112,356	*43,224*	*19,320*
1971	12,084	3,612	20,577	39,018	1,311	15,162	13,962	22,356	128,081	*44,232*	*24,000*
1972	15,616	4,332	25,771	46,150	1,605	18,552	16,399	24,342	152,766	*49,704*	*28,503*
1971 1st quarter	2,862	831	4,791	9,237	315	3,561	3,288	4,896	20,781	*11,451*	*5,568*
2nd quarter	2,904	921	5,022	9,561	327	3,519	3,342	5,623	31,219	*11,193*	*5,916*
3rd quarter	3,177	900	5,322	10,179	321	3,921	3,558	5,820	33,198	*11,766*	*6,132*
4th quarter	3,141	960	5,442	10,041	348	4,161	3,774	6,016	33,883	*9,822*	*6,384*
1972 1st quarter	3,570	1,050	5,873	11,064	370	4,406	3,907	6,044	36,343	*11,982*	*6,711*
2nd quarter	3,830	1,111	6,517	11,520	393	4,463	4,132	6,378	38,345	*11,733*	*6,639*
3rd quarter	3,906	1,034	6,370	11,258	411	4,548	4,020	5,389	36,937	*12,516*	*7,281*
4th quarter	4,310	1,137	7,011	12,308	431	5,131	4,277	6,529	41,137	*13,473*	*7,872*
1973 1st quarter	4,695	1,322	7,571	14,157	470	4,315	5,531	6,863	44,924	*15,626*	*8,325*
2nd quarter			8,800 (e)	16 631 (e)		5,493 (e)	5,843 (e)	7,673		*16,741* (e)	*8,777* (e)
1972 May	1,295	409	2,182	3,971	130	1,443	1,409	2,065	12,924	*3,977*	*2,182*
June	1,335	367	2,201	3,833	151	1,516	1,355	2,205	12,963	*3,952*	*2,147*
July	1,188	357	2,026	3,485	140	1,589	1,239	1,958	11,980	*4,086*	*2,346*
August	1,371	330	2,027	3,987	128	1,442	1,441	1,304	12,030	*4,228*	*2,391*
September	1,349	347	2,317	3,786	143	1,517	1,339	2,127	12,925	*4,201*	*2,542*
October	1,420	385	2,333	4,224	146	1,604	1,366	2,286	13,764	*4,452*	*2,495*
November	1,329	374	2,332	4,056	138	1,529	1,438	2,149	13,345	*4,510*	*2,607*
December	1,561	377	2,346	4,028	147	1,998	1,473	2,094	14,024	*4,511*	*2,769*
1973 January	1,378	406	2,414	4,642	131	1,445	1,788	2,210	14,414	*5,057*	*2,593*
February	1,590	470	2,494	4,848	166	1,633	1,997	2,331	15,528	*5,137*	*3,054*
March	1,727	446	2,663	4,667	173	1,237	1,746	2,322	14,981	*5,432*	*2,678*
April	1,751 (e)	412	2,668	5,101	158	1,463	1,721	2,531	15,805	*5,433*	*2,891*
May	1,833 (e)		2,922	5,960		2,010 (e)	2,087 (e)	2,460		*5,548*	*2,896*
June			3,210 (e)	5570 (e)		2,020 (e)	2,035 (e)	2,682		*5,760* (e)	*2 990* (e)
July			3,390 (e)	5,985 (e)				2,655		*5,867* (e)	*3,140* (e)
% change latest three months											
On previous three months	+17.3	+14.8	+21.7	+19.8	+19.5	+27.3	+ 5.6	+ 8.5	+10.8	*+ 7.3*	*+ 4.7*
On a year earlier	+44.6	+30.3	+48.6	+55.2	+34.3	+23.1	+41.4	+24.8	+26.3	*+42.9*	*+35.2*

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade.
* All values are expressed in US dollars, making use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade and Industry
All others: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

TABLE 4. IMPORTS (cif) Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	*United States*[2,3]	*Japan*[2]
1968	8,304	3,216	13,980	20,148	1,176	10,248	9,288	18,960	85,320	*33,108*	*12,984*
1969	9,984	3,804	17,388	24,924	1,416	12,444	10,992	19,956	100,908	*36,048*	*15,024*
1970	11,352	4,380	19,116	29,808	1,572	14,940	13,392	21,720	116,280	*39,960*	*18,876*
1971	12,396	4,473	21,249	34,367	1,839	16,004	15,168	23,897	129,393	*45,639*	*19,707*
1972	14,910	4,992	26,658	39,762	2,109	19,299	17,154	27,831	152,719	*55,776*	*23,448*
1971 1st quarter	2,949	1,107	5,004	8,073	495	4,014	3,603	5,702	30,947	*10,953*	*4,926*
2nd quarter	3,027	1,083	5,193	8,393	438	3,818	3,651	5,904	31,507	*11,829*	*4,941*
3rd quarter	3,117	1,116	5,493	8,805	447	3,960	3,867	5,952	32,757	*11,946*	*4,728*
4th quarter	3,303	1,167	5,559	9,096	459	4,212	4,047	6,339	34,182	*10,911*	*5,112*
1972 1st quarter	3,567	1,197	6,405	9,414	501	4,452	4,080	6,848	36,466	*13,479*	*5,409*
2nd quarter	3,627	1,116	6,528	10,005	510	4,641	4,227	6,954	37,612	*13,479*	*5,463*
3rd quarter	3,741	1,317	6,594	9,825	504	4,842	4,209	6,530	37,561	*13,995*	*5,961*
4th quarter	3,975	1,362	7,131	10,518	594	5,364	4,638	7,499	41,080	*14,823*	*6,615*
1973 1st quarter	4,637	1,586	7,984	11,851	630	5,342	5,349	8,242	45,620	*16,185*	*7,377*
2nd quarter			8,839 (e)	13,704 (e)		6,959 (e)		9,401		*16,916* (e)	*9,096* (e)
1972 May	1,186	382	2,366	3,484	171	1,631	1,346	2,392	12,868	*4,493*	*1,872*
June	1,258	363	2,065	3,337	182	1,482	1,383	2,329	12,399	*4,509*	*1,673*
July	1,133	455	2,106	3,080	161	1,607	1,346	1,987	11,875	*4,584*	*1,758*
August	1,313	417	2,164	3,426	152	1,656	1,461	1,889	12,478	*4,699*	*2,100*
September	1,294	444	2,324	3,319	191	1,580	1,402	2,654	13,208	*4,711*	*2,103*
October	1,280	470	2,319	3,461	190	1,721	1,600	2,554	13,595	*4,782*	*2,101*
November	1,365	480	2,311	3,516	185	1,532	1,535	2,509	13,433	*5,073*	*2,200*
December	1,329	412	2,502	3,540	218	2,111	1,504	2,436	14,052	*4,969*	*2,313*
1973 January	1,532	554	2,505	3,644	199	1,648	1,706	2,573	14,361	*5,286*	*2,253*
February	1,530	519	2,696	4,203	208	2,110	1,827	2,674	15,767	*5,494*	*2,440*
March	1,575	513	2,783	4,004	223	1,584	1,816	2,995	15,493	*5,406*	*2,684*
April	1,693 (e)	504	2,625	4,023	206	1,909	1,855	2,876	15,691	*5,326*	*2,890*
May			3,154	4,821 (e)		2,430 (e)	1,997 (e)	3,245		*5,799* (e)	*3,086*
June			3,060 (e)	4,860 (e)		2,620 (e)		3,280		*5,790* (e)	*3,120* (e)
July			3,330 (e)	4,950 (e)				3,280		5,760 (e)	*3,390* (e)
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	+13.5	+ 6.2	+17.8	+19.6	+ 5.8	+30.3	+12.5	+14.7	+12.2	*+ 6.9*	*+19.7*
On a year earlier	+36.2	+31.4	+46.0	+47.8	+28.4	+49.9	+34.0	+48.2	+26.7	*+27.7*	*+81.0*

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] *f.o.b.*

* All values are expressed in US dollars with the use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

(e) estimated. Source: United Kingdom; Department of Trade and Industry. All others: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 5. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ON CURRENT ACCOUNT

US$ million (unadjusted)

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark	France	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	*United States*	*Japan*
1968	36	−216	−1,089	2,726	− 62	2,627	65	−682	*− 484*	*1,048*
1969	84	−410	−1,818	1,609	−191	2,339	14	1,068	*−1,035*	*2,119*
1970	748	−544	− 152	730	−188	761	−438	1,661	*356*	*1,970*
1971	874	−449	527	175	420	1,846	−172	2,588	*−2,823*	*5,797*
1972	1,113	−102	742 (e)	566		1,452	1,052	221	*−8,354*	*6,656*
1971 1st quarter	156	−194	− 36	210		−125	−153	154	*714*	*434*
2nd quarter	232	−127	125	− 68		245	−175	833	*− 646*	*1,262*
3rd quarter	189	− 31	13	−232		1,158	50	900	*−2,239*	*2,100*
4th quarter	297	− 97	425	265		568	106	701	*− 652*	*2,001*
1972 1st quarter	279	− 44	− 314	61		606	5	− 73	*−1,852*	*959*
2nd quarter	215	51	455	− 72		701	268	476	*−2,473*	*1,225*
3rd quarter	235	− 41	− 10	−487		577	382	−355	*−3,331*	*2,091*
4th quarter	384	− 68	− 612 (e)	1,064		−431	397	173	*− 698*	*2,381*
1973 1st quarter								−837	*− 80*	*534*
2nd quarter								−420		

Source: UK: Central Statistical Office. All others: IMF International Financial Statistics

TABLE 6. EXPORT UNIT VALUES OF MANUFACTURES

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg		France		German F.R.		Ireland	Italy		Nether-lands		United Kingdom		*United States*	*Japan*	
	US$	Bfrs.	US$	frs.	US$	D.M.		US$	lire	US$	Gdrs.	US$	£	US$	US$	Yen
1968	91	91	96	85	88	96	—	92	92	95	95	90	90	*91*	*90*	*90*
1969	95	95	97	90	92	93	—	95	95	97	97	93	93	*95*	*95*	*95*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	—	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*	*100*
1971	101	98	106	106	108	103	—	106	105			110	109	*102*	*105*	*102*
1972			116	107			—					121	117	*105*	*118*	*101*
1971 1st quarter	97	97	103	103	101	101	—	104	104			105	105	*103*	*101*	*101*
2nd quarter	98	98	104	104	104	102	—	105	105			108	108	*102*	*104*	*104*
3rd quarter	101	98	106	106	111	104	—	106	105			112	111	*101*	*106*	*105*
4th quarter	108 (e)	100 (e)	109	109	115	104	—	109	106			117	112	*103*	*109*	*99*
1972 1st quarter	113	100	114	105	118	104	—	114	107			123	114	*104*	*113*	*97*
2nd quarter			114	105	118	104	—	114	107			125	116	*105*	*118*	*101*
3rd quarter			117	108	122	107	—	116	108			120	118	*104*	*120*	*103*
4th quarter			118	109			—					117	119	*106*	*122*	*194*
1973 1st quarter							—							*107*		
% change latest 3 months:																
On previous 3 months	+ 4.6	Nil	+ 0.9	+ 0.9	+ 3.4	+ 2.9	—	+ 1.7	+ 0.9			− 2.5	+ 0.8	*+ 0.9*	*+ 1.7*	*+ 1.0*
On a year earlier	+16.5	+ 3.1	+ 8.3	Nil	+ 9.9	+ 2.9	—	+ 9.4	+ 2.9			Nil	+ 6.3	*+ 2.9*	*+11.9*	*+ 5.1*

(e) estimated. Source: Dollar value: 'United Nations Monthly Bulletin'. National currency: Dollar values converted at OECD exchange rates

TABLE 7. CONSUMER PRICES
All goods and services

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1]	Luxembourg[1]	Denmark	France[2]	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	*United States*	*Japan*[2]
1968	92	93	91	89	93	86	93	89	90	*90*	*88*
1969	96	96	94	95	96	92	95	96	94	*94*	*93*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	104	105	106	105	105	109	105	108	109	*104*	*106*
1972	110	110	113	112	111	118	111	116	117	*108*	*111*
1971 1st quarter	102	103	103	103	103	105	103	104	106	*103*	*104*
2nd quarter	104	104	105	105	105	108	104	107	109	*104*	*106*
3rd quarter	105	105	107	106	106	110	105	108	111	*105*	*107*
4th quarter	106	107	108	108	107	112	107	110	112	*106*	*108*
1972 1st quarter	108	108	110	109	109	115	108	113	114	*106*	*108*
2nd quarter	109	109	112	110	110	117	109	115	116	*107*	*111*
3rd quarter	111	111	114	113	112	120	111	116	118	*108*	*111*
4th quarter	113	113	116	115	114	122	114	119	121	*109*	*113*
1973 1st quarter	115	114	118	116	116	126	117	121	123	*111*	*116*
2nd quarter	117 (e)	117	122	118	120 (e)	130	122	125	127	*113*	*122*
1972 May	109	109	112	110	110	117	110	115	116	*107*	*111*
June	110	110	113	111	111		110	116	117	*107*	*111*
July	110	111	113	112	111		111	115	117	*108*	*111*
August	111	111	113	112	111	120	111	116	118	*108*	*112*
September	111	112	114	113	113		112	117	119	*109*	*112*
October	112	112	115	114	113		114	119	120	*109*	*113*
November	113	113	116	115	114	122	115	119	121	*109*	*112*
December	114	113	117	115	114		115	120	121	*109*	*113*
1973 January	115	114	117	115	116		116	121	122	*110*	*114*
February	115	114	118	116	116	126	117	121	123	*111*	*115*
March	116	115	119	116	117		119	122	124	*112*	*118*
April	116	116	120	117	118		120	124	126	*112*	*121*
May	117	117	122	118	119	130	122	125	127	*113*	*123*
June	117	117	123	119	120		123	125	127	*114*	*123*
July	117 (e)				120 (e)			125 (e)	128 (e)		
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	+ 1.2	+ 2.3	+ 3.1	+ 2.0	+ 2.9	+ 3.2	+ 3.7	+ 2.2	+ 2.4	*+ 1.8*	*+ 5.8*
On a year earlier	+ 6.7	+ 7.3	+ 8.6	+ 6.9	+ 8.5	+ 11.1	+ 10.9	+ 8.4	+ 9.1	*+ 5.6*	*+ 10.2*

[1]Excluding rent. [2]Change of basis during period. (e) estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 8. VALUE OF RETAIL SALES
Current prices, seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1]/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France[2]	German F.R.[3]	Ireland[4]	Italy[1]	Netherlands	Great Britain[5]	*United States*	*Japan*
1968	83	82	88	82	83	84	80	89	*92*	*80*
1969	90	89	97	90	92	90	89	93	*95*	*89*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	107	108	104	111	111	108	100	109	*109*	*110*
1972	122	120	109	120	125	109	119	122	*119*	*118*
1971 1st quarter	101	103	101	108	108	105	105	103	*105*	*105*
2nd quarter	105	107	103	110	110	106	109	107	*108*	*107*
3rd quarter	111	109	104	112	111	108	110	111	*110*	*112*
4th quarter	111	112	106	113	114	111	114	114	*112*	*113*
1972 1st quarter	115	114	106	117	119	113	114	115	*114*	*111*
2nd quarter	121	117	108	118	122	112	118	118	*117*	*114*
3rd quarter	127	123	111	122	126	121	120	124	*120*	*120*
4th quarter	123	123	111	122	132	126	123	129	*125*	*124*
1973 1st quarter		127	112	131	142		123	135	*132*	*135*
2nd quarter									*132*	
1972 May	119	118	109	119	124	113	118	117	*121*	*114*
June	127	117	110	119	125	111	123	119	*120*	*115*
July	122	120	111	120	124	113	113	123	*119*	*119*
August	125	123	112	126	126	121	124	124	*121*	*120*
September	134	124	112	122	127	128	122	124	*121*	*121*
October	119	123	114	125	138	121	123	127	*125*	*122*
November	120	123	108	120	128	126	125	128	*124*	*125*
December	128	122	110	122	129	133	121	131	*126*	*126*
1973 January	125	128	112	129	138	122	124	130	*130*	*131*
February	134	126	112	134	145	133	125	135	*132*	*134*
March		126	111	128	143		123	139	*134*	*139*
April		126	112	129	142		124	129	*132*	*138*
May		126		130				130	*133*	*138*
June									*132*	
% change latest three months:										
On previous three months	+ 3.7	+ 0.5	+ 1.5	+ 0.5	+ 8.9	+ 3.5	+ 1.4	+ 0.5	*+ 0.3*	*+ 6.1*
On a year earlier	+13.2	+ 8.0	+ 5.0	+10.6	+19.4	+16.2	+ 7.5	+14.0	*+12.5*	*+23.1*

[1]Department stores. [2]Department and chainstores. [3]Excluding West Berlin. [4]Average weekly sales. [5]Excluding motor vehicles.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

TABLE 9. EARNINGS/WAGES PER HEAD IN MANUFACTURING — Indices 1970=100

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[1, 2]	France	German F.R.[7, 8] †	Ireland[3]	Italy[8]	Nether-lands[4]	United Kingdom†	*United States*[5]	*Japan*[6] †
1968	84	81	82	79	76	78	82	81	*90*	*73*
1969	92	90	91	87	86	83	90	89	*95*	*85*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	111	115	110	111	116	113	112	111	*106*	*114*
1972	127	129	120	121	133	124	126	126	*113*	*131*
1971 1st quarter	107	108	105	108	110	109	107	108	*104*	*108*
2nd quarter	110	114	108	109	114	111	110	111	*106*	*111*
3rd quarter	112	117	110	113	118	114	114	112	*106*	*116*
4th quarter	115	121	113	112	122	116	116	114	*108*	*117*
1972 1st quarter	122	123	116	116	127	119	122	121	*111*	*123*
2nd quarter	124	128	119	120	131	121	124	124	*112*	*129*
3rd quarter	129	130	121	122	135	126	128	127	*113*	*131*
4th quarter	132	135	124	126	140	130	129	131	*116*	*138*
1973 1st quarter				130		136 (e)	135	134	*118* *120*	*145*
% change latest three months:										
On previous three months	+ 2.3	+ 3.8	+ 2.5	+ 3.2	+ 3.7	+ 4.6	+ 4.7	+ 2.3	*+ 1.7*	*+ 5.1*
On a year earlier	+14.8	+11.6	+ 9.7	+12.0	+14.8	+14.3	+ 10.7	+10.7	*+ 7.1*	*+17.9*

† Seasonally adjusted.
[1]Earnings in industry and construction. [2]Including bonuses. [3]Earnings. [4]Hourly earnings industry: males. [5]Gross hourly earnings per productive worker. [6]Monthly earnings in manufacturing: regular workers. [7]Wages and salaries per employed person in industry, excluding construction, public gas and electricity undertakings. [8]Hourly-rates times average daily hours worked.

Source: All countries 'OECD Main Economic Indicators', except German Federal Republic ('Monatsberichte der Deutschen Bundesbank', Reihe 4), Italy ('I.L.O. Yearbook' and 'M.E.I.') and United Kingdom ('Department of Employment Gazette').

Customs notices of interest to exporters

THE following Public Notices issued by HM Customs and Excise relate to various aspects of export procedure. Copies of these Notices may be obtained from the local Officer of Customs and Excise, whose address appears in the telephone directory and to whom all inquiries should be addressed, or from the Secretary, HM Customs and Excise, 39-41 Mark Lane, London, EC3R 7HE.

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